

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of	:	Hideaki AKIZUKI
For	:	FIXING MEMBER FOR FIXING AN OBJECT TO BE ATTACHED TO A PLATE AND CLAMP WITH THE FIXING MEMBER
Group Art Unit	:	3632
Examiner	:	Ko Hung Chan
Docket	:	ADACHI P217USD1

The Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Dear Sir:

By way of preliminary amendment, please amend the above identified application as set forth below.

**In the Drawings:**

Please amend Fig. 3A of the drawings presently on file per the attached Submission. A new formal drawing, incorporating the requested drawing amendment, accompanies this Submission.

**In the Specification:**

Please insert the following paragraph between the "TITLE" and the "TECHNICAL FIELD" sections of the specification in which the specification additions are shown by underlining and the specification deletions are shown by strikeout. Please enter the replacement specification paragraphs into the record of this case.

**In the Claims:**

Please cancel claims 1-12, without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter therein, in favor of new claims 13-32 as follows.

This application is a divisional of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/923,743 filed August 7, 2001 which claims priority from Japanese Application Serial No. 2000-359448 filed November 27, 2000 and also claims priority from Japanese Application Serial No. 2000-241283 filed August 9, 2000.